

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for communicating packets to a remote device comprising:  
receiving packets encoding streaming data for delivery to a remote device,  
wherein each of the packets comprises a sequence number;

5 separating the packets into a plurality of streams corresponding to a plurality  
of paths to the remote device, wherein each of the streams comprises a subset of the  
packets having no more than a predetermined number of consecutive sequence  
numbers; and

communicating the streams using the corresponding paths to reduce  
10 susceptibility to a disturbance on one of the paths.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the streaming data comprise voice  
information.

15 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the predetermined number is two.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein separating the packets comprises  
alternating between the paths to assign each subsequent packet to a different one of  
the paths.

20 5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
determining a capacity for each of the paths; and  
separating the packets into the streams based on the capacities of the paths.

25 6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
monitoring packet loss for each of the paths;  
determining that the packet loss for a selected one of the paths exceeds a  
threshold; and

30 reducing a frequency of packets separated into the stream corresponding to the  
selected one of the paths to reduce bandwidth used on the selected one of the paths.

7. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - storing historical data indicating performance characteristics for each of the paths over a period of time; and
  - separating the packets into the streams based on the historical data.

8. A network node comprising:

a network interface coupled to a plurality of paths to a remote device, the network interface operable to receive packets encoding streaming data for delivery to the remote device, with each of the packets comprising a sequence number;

5 a processor operable to separate the packets into a plurality of streams corresponding to the paths, with each of the streams comprising a subset of the packets having no more than a predetermined number of consecutive sequence numbers; and

10 the network interface further operable to communicate the streams on the corresponding paths to reduce susceptibility to a disturbance on one of the paths.

9. The network node of Claim 8, wherein the streaming data comprise voice information.

15 10. The network node of Claim 8, wherein the predetermined number is two.

20 11. The network node of Claim 8, wherein the processor is further operable to separate the packets by alternating between the paths to assign each subsequent packet to a different one of the paths.

12. The network node of Claim 8, wherein the processor is further operable to:

25 determine capacity for each of the paths; and

separate the packets into the streams based on the capacities of the paths.

13. The network node of Claim 8, wherein the processor is further operable to:

monitor packet loss for each of the paths;

5 determine that the packet loss for a selected one of the paths exceeds a threshold; and

reduce a frequency of packets separated into the stream corresponding to the selected one of the paths to reduce bandwidth used on the selected one of the paths.

14. The network node of Claim 8, further comprising:

10 a memory storing historical data indicating performance characteristics for each of the paths over a period of time; and wherein:

the processor is further operable to access the memory to determine the historical data and to separate the packets into the streams based on the historical data.

DOCKET NUMBER

15. Logic for communicating packets to a remote device, the logic encoded in a medium and operable when executed to:

receive packets encoding streaming data for delivery to a remote device, wherein each of the packets comprises a sequence number;

5 separate the packets into a plurality of streams corresponding to a plurality of paths to the remote device, wherein each of the streams comprises a subset of the packets having no more than a predetermined number of consecutive sequence numbers; and

communicate the streams using the corresponding paths to reduce  
10 susceptibility to a disturbance on one of the paths.

16. The logic of Claim 15, further operable to alternate between the paths to assign each subsequent packet to a different one of the paths.

15 17. The logic of Claim 15, further operable to:

determine a capacity for each of the paths; and

separate the packets into the streams based on the capacities of the paths.

18. The logic of Claim 15, further operable to:

20 monitor packet loss for each of the paths;

determine that the packet loss for a selected one of the paths exceeds a threshold; and

reduce a frequency of packets separated into the stream corresponding to the selected one of the paths to reduce bandwidth used on the selected one of the paths.

25 19. The logic of Claim 15, further operable to:

store historical data indicating performance characteristics for each of the paths over a period of time; and

separate the packets into the streams based on the historical data.

20. A network node comprising:

means for receiving packets encoding streaming data for delivery to a remote device, wherein each of the packets comprises a sequence number;

5 means for separating the packets into a plurality of streams corresponding to a plurality of paths to the remote device, wherein each of the streams comprises a subset of the packets having no more than a predetermined number of consecutive sequence numbers; and

means for communicating the streams using the corresponding paths to reduce susceptibility to a disturbance on one of the paths.

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21. The network node of Claim 20, wherein the means for separating the packets comprises means for alternating between the paths to assign each subsequent packet to a different one of the paths.

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22. The network node of Claim 20, further comprising:

means for determining a capacity for each of the paths; and

means for separating the packets into the streams based on the capacities of the paths.

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23. The network node of Claim 20, further comprising:

means for monitoring packet loss for each of the paths;

means for determining that the packet loss for a selected one of the paths exceeds a threshold; and

25 reducing a frequency of packets separated into the stream corresponding to the selected one of the paths to reduce bandwidth used on the selected one of the paths.

24. The network node of Claim 20, further comprising:

means for storing historical data indicating performance characteristics for each of the paths over a period of time; and

30 means for separating the packets into the streams based on the historical data.